

# Outgoing, Personable Lancaster Dairy Princess Points To 'ABCs' Of Milk

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LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — Lancaster County's new dairy princess said she'd describe herself as "outgoing and personable," someone who wouldn't be afraid, she said, "to get up in front of a crowd and wear flashy outfits" to promote milk.

Elizabeth Young did just that, wearing coveralls and Holstein-colored socks, holding onto her two favorite stuffed animals, as part of her skit to describe the "ABCs" of milk.

Elizabeth took home the tiara last Saturday evening when she was crowned in front of more than 100 dairy family and friends at the Farm and Home Center.

The 17-year-old daughter of Dave and Carol Young, Peach Bottom, will be a senior this fall at Solanco High School.

Elizabeth, outgoing alternate dairy princess, is "very personable," she said. "I like meeting people. . . . I just like people!"

One of the toughest audiences that dairy royalty, including ambassadors, face is young children, noted Elizabeth Smith, mistress of ceremonies for the event.

And the new dairy princess's skit, "The ABCs of Dairy," featured Elizabeth Young at a tea party speaking about how milk is "so rich and creamy, I just love it," she said.

Elizabeth noted that A stands

the quality of milk and its freshness, R for the Real Seal, S for the fact that seven out of 10 kids don't get enough calcium in their diet, T for taste, U for universal appeal, V for versatile, W for the work done to promote milk, and X for X-rays taken of bones that show good health when you drink milk. Y is for young when you need milk — but before Elizabeth could get to Z, the imaginary mom called to her, asking if she had taken the milk and cheese for the tea party.

Elizabeth works on the family's 500-milking cow (900 total) grade Holstein dairy in Peach Bottom, a member of the Land O' Lakes Cooperative.

Elizabeth vowed to her real-life mother to "remember her datebook," and thanked those in dairy promotions for allowing her the chance to serve as princess.

Jill Hoover, Gap, was crowned Lancaster County alternate dairy princess.

Jill, 17, is the daughter of Gordon and Carole Hoover. Jill will be a senior at Pequea Valley High School.

She belongs to 4-H and is the vice president of her FFA.

Jill became a dairy darling at 8 years of age. She's served as dairy ambassador the past two years. She enjoys playing in the school band and chorus and plays soccer.

Jill, outgoing dairy ambassa-



Elizabeth Young, center, was crowned Lancaster County dairy princess last Saturday at the Farm and Home Center. At left is alternate Jill Hoover and right, alternate Kristi Unger.

is "outgoing and focused," she said, with "ease in front of people."

"When I get myself to do something, I get it done," she said. "For the most part, I get everything done."

Also selected alternate princess was Kristi Unger, 17, daughter of Jeffrey and Mary Unger, Quarryville.

Kristi is Solanco FFA reporter. A senior this year, she works part-time at Gerhart's Farm in New Providence. She milks part-time three days a week.

Kristi, who wants to be a doctor, plans to attend York College or Mansfield University.

During competition, Kristi presented her skit, "Twisted Old MacDonald," about a student in Mrs. Kagle's sixth grade class who gives a speech on the popular children's tune — but with a dairy message.

Wearing coveralls and straw hat, Kristi read one of the stanzas to the song: "A healthy body comes from milk, this is our main goal."

Milk's calcium and protein

"makes hair shiny and gives healthy teeth," she said.

Kristi noted during the impromptu question that she believes she is "pretty responsible," she said. "I have a part-time job and that helps a lot. I'm organized."

The 2000-2001 dairy ambassadors are Stephanie Donough, Nicole Benner, Cheryl Hershey, Kari Martin, Laura Blank, Lisa Blank, and Deb Young. The 2000-2001 Dairy Misses will be Tiffany Donough and Hannah Wentworth.

The 2000-2001 Dairy Darlings are Valerie Bollinger, Stephanie Kauffman, Toni Kauffman, and Leslie Hoover.

Outgoing dairy princess Elisa Ranck noted that 1,000 years ago, the site where the pageant took place was "a wild forest," she said. In another 1,000 years, it would be tough to know what would stand on the site.

But one thing has been constant, Elisa said. "Milk has been and always will be nature's most perfect beverage."

Though her reign ends, she

said "dairy royalty is in the blood, for life."

Dale Smith, mother of mistress of ceremonies Elizabeth Smith and co-chairperson of the county dairy promotion committee, noted that the ambassadors themselves have traveled a total of 4,500 miles across the state and in the area, handing out 1,555 recipes, 10,437 rubber cows and other erasers, placed a minimum of 15 radio and TV spots, attended 91 school programs, placed 19 articles in the newspaper, and provided many other farm and nonfarm events and promotions.

Judges were Joy Crothers, Pennsylvania dairy promotion director from a dairy in Oxford; Jennifer Davis, Leesport, a former Berks County dairy princess from a 60-cow dairy who works for an agriculture trade publication; and James Shirk, assistant vice president for PennAg Industries Association and director of the state poultry association who lives on the family farm in Goodville.



Hannah Wentworth, 10, Lancaster County dairy miss, serves milk punch at the pageant.

for an important vitamin, B for the B vitamins, C for calcium, D for dairy princess, E for the importance of milk in everyone's diet, F for the many flavors of milk, G for milk's importance in growing years, and H for its general health. She said the I stands for the many varieties of ice cream, J for the fact that getting good nutrition from milk is no laughing matter, and K means the many kinds of varieties of food containing milk.

Elizabeth explained that L stands for the land needed to grow feed for a cow, M for the sound cows make, N for the additional nutrients in milk, including protein and iron, O for the fact that milk helps prevent osteoporosis, a crippling disease, and P for Pennsylvania, which stands fourth in the country in milk production.

Elizabeth said that Q denotes

dor, plans to be a "music ambassador" to Europe. She plans to travel, singing and playing bassoon. She plans to attend college and study veterinary sciences and "something in music," she said.

Jill works on a 120-head milking (120 replacement head) Holstein dairy, a member of the Land O'Lakes Cooperative.

Her skit involved preparing a birthday party for her sister Leslie, turning 9. Jill was compiling a "checklist" of important items, replacing soda with tasty milk punch, replacing potato chips and pretzels with cheese and crackers, and keeping pizza, cake, and ice cream on the menu because they contain essential dairy items.

When asked what two characteristics describe herself and how they would benefit the contestant as a dairy princess, Jill noted she



New Lancaster County dairy royalty. Front from left, dairy misses Tiffany Donough and Hannah Wentworth and dairy darlings Leslie Hoover, Valerie Bollinger, Stephanie Kauffman, and Toni Kauffman. Back from left, dairy ambassadors Kari Martin, Lisa Blank, Deb Young, Laura Blank, Stephanie Donough, Cheryl Hershey, and Nicole Benner.